



## Agriculture

According to the secretary of the Kansas State Board of Agriculture, Kansas farmers planted this fall the third largest acreage to wheat in the history of the state; greater by 2,708,742 acres than the average annual acreage for the crops of the five-year period prior to the World War, 1909 to 1913 inclusive. However, this acreage is 6.3 per cent less than the crop of 1919 which amounted to 11,610,445 acres.

British India, Egypt and the United States ordinarily produce from 80 to 85 per cent of the world's cotton. The prospective production this year is 16 per cent larger than that of 1919.

The Guaranty Trust Company of New York has issued a new foreign trade booklet designed to be of service to those interested in trade with the southern countries. The title of the booklet is "Essentials of Trading with Latin America." It deals with the problems of finance and exchange, transportation, credits, insurance, consular requirements and methods of packing and marking. It is of particular interest to those who are interested in Latin-American trade.

A carload of purebred cattle valued at more than \$25,000 was recently purchased at the Pacific International Live Stock Exposition in Portland.

India has turned from a silver to a gold standard. For the first time on record the shifting of an excess of merchandise exports to an excess of imports, coupled with a changed exchange and currency system, has caused the nation to export silver to get gold.

According to the comptroller of the Shipping Board, losses are being shown on practically every voyage undertaken by a Shipping Board vessel. Private lines are said to be experiencing similar difficulties.

The deflation of values has driven a London concern, which is one of the largest fur brokers in the world, into voluntary bankruptcy.

Senator King, of Utah, is preparing amendments to the Sherman Anti-Trust Law which he declares will increase the control of the Department of Justice over combinations in restraint of trade.

Michigan growers took the first 22 awards for rye and nine of the 14 awards for Red Rock Wheat at the Chicago International Hay and Grain Show.

Attracted by the high rate of exchange, counterfeiters are circulating bogus American money in Germany. One \$10 bill was detected because "America" was spelled with a "k" instead of a "c."

There are 20,350 tractors in use on Michigan farms, or approximately one for every 10 farms in the state.

The Standard Oil Company of California is preparing to drill for oil in the Philippine Islands.

The Chamber of Commerce of the United States opposes the creation of National Railroad Boards of Labor Adjustment, lately advocated by railroad employees.

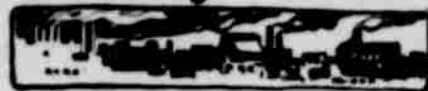
The Department of the Somme in France has been able this year, not only to meet its own agricultural requirements, but to send more than 300,000 metric quintals of corn to other departments of the republic.

The day of the river packet seems to be returning. High freight rates on the railroads have made it profitable for the steamers to operate again and 30 of these craft have gone back into business on the Mississippi this season.

A Chamber of Commerce has been organized at Manila. All the members are Americans.

# The Three Arts

## Manufacture



Two hundred million dollars has been appropriated by the Japanese Government for the construction of new railway lines. The same amount is to be spent as a first installment for the electrification of state railways and the substitution of standard gauge for the present narrow gauge.

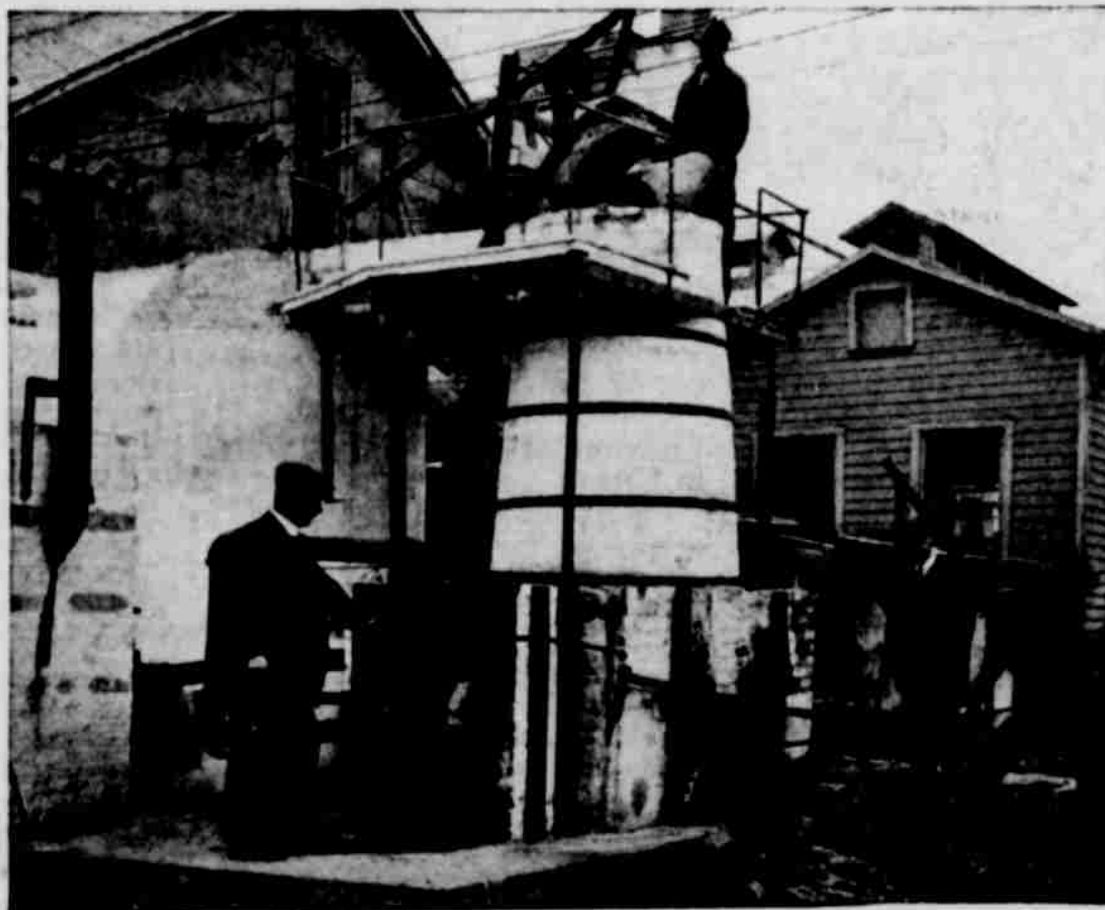
England and other European importing countries do not appear so keen for wheat supplies as they were. Some of the English mills situated at the ocean ports have commenced to run on short time, because of the very large stocks of flour now available in that country. Stocks of flour and wheat combined are over 33,000,000 bushels as against 12,000,000 bushels for last year at this time. This would indicate that depressed wheat prices are not due entirely to market pressure in the United States.

The aggregate net deposits of 823 member banks as of October 29, 1920, were about 10.3 times their reserve balances with Federal Reserve banks.

A wireless message from Moscow states that the Supreme Economic Soviet of Russia has issued a decree permitting foreign capitalists to work the natural resources of Russia, receiving in return the right to export a portion of their production. The Soviet promises the foreign capitalists that nothing they invest in Russian undertakings shall be nationalized, requisitioned or confiscated and that capitalists shall have the right to engage workers and other employees in accordance with the existing Russian labor laws.

Countries normally producing three-fifths of the world's crop of rice report an estimated 1920 production of 151,000,000,000 pounds, which is a gain of 37 per cent over the crop of 1919.

## A Discovery in Fertilizers



(C) Harris & Ewing

Scientists of the United States Department of Agriculture believe they have made a discovery which may revolutionize the fertilizer industry of the world. It consists of an economical method of extracting phosphoric acid from phosphate rock. The department's experimental station, shown in the accompanying illustration, has made several experimental runs in which chemists were able to recover 64 per cent phosphoric acid. A 16 per cent recovery was the best method obtained prior to these experiments. The fuel consumption is 15 per cent of the value of the product, or about 7 per cent below the records of previously tried methods.

A world's industrial exhibition will be held in London, May to October, 1922.

The Department of Agriculture is about to make experiments in sending market reports to farmers by wireless. The trial service will be confined to counties adjacent to the District of Columbia.

The common barberry is being eradicated through the efforts of the Department of Agriculture which has found that the shrub harbors rust spores during the winter.

Formerly worthless marshlands in Maryland have been devoted of late to muskrat farming. The venture has been very successful.

It is not true that farming as a whole has deteriorated in the United States or that soils have been impoverished, that acre yields have dropped or that the increase in population has outdistanced the production of food. For the last forty years, the increases in yield per acre are as follows: potatoes, thirty-three; wheat, twenty-five; oats, twenty-four; hay, twenty; corn, ten; cotton, three and one-half; or for all crops sixteen per cent. Some explanation for these increased figures is to be found in better agricultural methods; rotation of crops, disease-control measure, employment of power machinery and more intelligent use of fertilizers.

The government has compiled figures on the cost of feeding beef cattle in Missouri, Iowa and Indiana during the last two years. These statistics show that on the average the cattle growers in the sections covered would have made more money if they had sold their corn instead of feeding it.

The Middle West is being swept by the farm bureau movement. The result of the hundreds of organizers in Nebraska, Kansas and Iowa working with the county as a unit has been to sign up from 75 to 90 per cent of the farmers.

The report of Lloyd's Register of Shipping for the year 1920 shows that there is an unprecedentedly large tonnage of new vessels. The vessels of large size which were sunk during the war have not been replaced, the more urgent demand being for the building of cargo vessels. A great many steamers which previously burned coal were converted to oil burners.

There was a decrease of 60,000 in the number of men and boys working on Ohio farms during the fiscal year ending June 30. For every man who returned to farm life during that period, seven left it for other occupations.

The Department of Justice has petitioned the supreme court to be permitted to take possession and dispose of the stocks owned by the "Big Five" packers, in the enterprises which the meat men must abandon under the decree obtained by the government.

Before the war the United States manufactured toys to the value of \$20,000,000 annually. This year the figure will reach the \$100,000,000 mark, with a steadily increasing foreign demand.

A 14,000-ton tank steamer just completed at Emden, Germany, cost as much to build as did the gigantic 56,000-ton liner Imperator, constructed before the war.

Since the introduction of the new rail rates, Oregon and Washington mills have shipped half a million feet of lumber via the Panama Canal.

Legislation proposed by a bill just introduced in Congress would hold up all immigration for six months in order to give time to study conditions and frame new measures.

Capital is interesting itself in plans to utilize corncobs. Chemists have discovered that a high-grade adhesive can be obtained from the cobs in addition to practically pure cellulose.

The farmers of Canada are demanding a general lowering of the tariff on all articles required for cultivation of the soil.

Boys and girls of Idaho held their own fair this fall. They displayed 179 sheep, calves and pigs, most of them purebreds, over 800 exhibits of canned fruit and 350 samples of sewing. The exhibit was a feature of the general state fair.

Small sugar beet mills, according to government experts, have not proved successful in the United States. All mills slicing less than 500 tons a day have either failed or been enlarged.